

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method, comprising:
 2 receiving an electronic mail message;
 3 displaying information about the electronic mail
 4 message in a way that allows at least one of deleting the
 5 message without indicating whether it is spam or not,
 6 deleting the message while indicating that it is spam, or
 7 deleting the message while indicating that it is not spam.

1 2. A method as in claim 1 further comprising storing
 2 a database of spam likelihood, and wherein said deleting
 3 while indicating updates information in the database.

1 3. A method as in claim 1 wherein said deleting
 2 while indicating updates rules in a rules database.

1 4. A method as in claim 3 wherein said rules include
 2 information about fields from said electronic mail message.

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1 10. A method to as in claim 8, wherein said at least
2 one other field comprises information within a subject of
3 the e-mail message.

1 11. A method as in claim 8 wherein said at least one
2 other field comprises information about links of said e-
3 mail message.

1 12. A method as in claim 8, further comprising
2 comparing an incoming message to said rules and determining
3 a likelihood that the incoming message is unwanted based on
4 said comparing.

1 13. A method as in claim 12 wherein said comparing
2 comprises comparing each of a plurality of fields with
3 rules indicative of said fields and determining a
4 likelihood that the message is unwanted based on said
5 comparing.

1 14. An e-mail program, comprising:
2 a display portion which is displays a plurality of e-
3 mails;

4 a plurality of controls including at least a first
5 control which selects deleting an e-mail while indicating

6 that said e-mail is spam, and a second control which
7 selects deleting an e-mail while indicating that said e-
8 mail is not spam.

1 15. A program as in claim 14, further comprising
2 displaying a likelihood of spam coefficient which
3 indicates, on a weighted scale, a likelihood that the
4 associated message represents spam.

1 16. A program as in claim 14, further comprising
2 displaying a control which allows deleting an e-mail
3 without indicating or not indicating whether said e-mail
4 represents spam.

1 17. A method, comprising:

2 obtaining a message;

3 monitoring a user's actions with respect to said

4 message, and automatically forming rules indicating the

5 desirability of said message; and

6 using said rules to assess desirability of other

7 messages.

1 18. A method as in claim 17, wherein said messages
2 are electronic mail messages.

1 19. A method as in claim 17 wherein said user's
2 actions include a specific way that the user deletes said
3 message.

1 20. A method as in claim 17 wherein said desirability
2 comprises whether said message is a spam e-mail message.

1 21. A method, comprising:
2 determining a plurality of characteristics of an
3 unwanted message;
4 forming a list with said plurality of characteristics;
5 forming a score of an incoming message by comparing
6 said incoming message with said list and determining
7 commonalities between said incoming message and said list;
8 defining said message as likely being unwanted if said
9 score is within a predetermined range; and
10 taking an action to restrict said message based on
11 said defining.

1 22. A method as in claim 21, further comprising
2 assessing a common-ness of a domain a sender of a message,
3 and using said common-ness of said domain.

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